

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S4705–4742*

**Measures Introduced:** Nine bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2058–2066, and S. Res. 272–273. **Pages S4729–30**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 279, to allow tribal grant schools to participate in the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program. (S. Rept. No. 116–54)

S. Res. 198, condemning Brunei's dramatic human rights backsliding, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. 1173, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

S. 1199, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the poison center network program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. Con. Res. 10, recognizing that Chinese telecommunications companies such as Huawei and ZTE pose serious threats to the national security of the United States and its allies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble. **Page S4729**

#### Measures Passed:

**Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act:** Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 239, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S4739**

Thune (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 907, relating to date changes. **Page S4739**

**Encouraging a Swift Transfer of Power in the Republic of the Sudan:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 188, encouraging a swift transfer of power by the

military to a civilian-led political authority in the Republic of the Sudan, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute and the committee reported amendment to the preamble, and agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S4736–39**

Thune (for Cruz/Durbin) Amendment No. 908, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S4736–38**

Thune (for Cruz/Durbin) Amendment No. 909, to amend the preamble. **Page S4738**

**Wetherell II Nomination—Cloture:** By 82 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. EX. 192), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of T. Kent Wetherell II, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Florida. **Page S4724**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 10, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, post-cloture. **Page S4740**

**Leichty Nomination—Cloture:** By 87 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. EX. 193), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination of Damon Ray Leichty, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana. **Pages S4724–25**

**Ranjan Nomination—Cloture:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of J. Nicholas Ranjan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania. **Page S4725**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 83 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 194), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S4725**

**Nominations—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, July 10, 2019, Senate vote on confirmation of the following nominations in the order listed: T. Kent Wetherell II, to be United States District

Judge for the Northern District of Florida, J. Nicholas Ranjan, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and Damon Ray Leichty, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana; that at 4:30 p.m., Senate vote on the pending motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Robert L. King, of Kentucky, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, and John P. Pallasch, of Kentucky, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, and that if cloture is invoked, the votes on confirmation of the nominations occur at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader on Thursday, July 11, 2019; and that the motion to invoke cloture with respect to the nomination of Peter C. Wright, of Michigan, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Environmental Protection Agency, ripen following disposition of the nomination of John P. Pallasch.

Page S4725

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 191), Daniel Aaron Bress, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Pages S4706–24

**Measures Read the First Time:**

Page S4726

**Executive Communications:**

Page S4726

**Petitions and Memorials:**

Pages S4726–29

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages S4730–32

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

Page S4732

**Additional Statements:**

Page S4726

**Amendments Submitted:**

Pages S4733–35

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

Page S4735

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—194)

Pages S4724–25

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:07 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4740.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### USSOUTHCOM NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded a hearing to examine implementation of the National Defense Strategy in the United States Southern Command

area of responsibility, after receiving testimony from Admiral Craig S. Faller, USN, Commander, United States Southern Command, Department of Defense.

### NASA EXPLORATION PLANS

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Aviation and Space concluded a hearing to examine National Aeronautics and Space Administration exploration plans, focusing on where we have been and where we are going, after receiving testimony from Eugene F. Kranz, former Apollo Flight Director, Houston, Texas; Christine M. Darden, formerly of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Langley Research Center, Hampton, Virginia; Mary Lynne Dittmar, Coalition for Deep Space Exploration, and Eric Stallmer, Commercial Spaceflight Federation, both of Washington, D.C.; and Homer Hickam, *Rocket Boys*, Huntsville, Alabama.

### ENERGY LEGISLATION

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy concluded a hearing to examine S. 1602, to amend the United States Energy Storage Competitiveness Act of 2007 to establish a research, development, and demonstration program for grid-scale energy storage systems, S. 1593, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy storage research program, a demonstration program, and a technical assistance and grant program, S. 1183, to establish an energy storage and microgrid grant and technical assistance program, S. 1741, to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to advance energy storage deployment by reducing the cost of energy storage through research, development, and demonstration, S. 2048, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a demonstration initiative focused on the development of long-duration energy storage technologies, including a joint program to be established in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, S. 1685, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program for the research, development, and demonstration of commercially viable technologies for the capture of carbon dioxide produced during the generation of natural gas-generated power, S. 143, to authorize the Department of Energy to conduct collaborative research with the Department of Veterans Affairs in order to improve healthcare services for veterans in the United States, S. 983, to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to reauthorize the weatherization assistance program, S. 1857, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to improve Federal energy and water performance requirements for Federal buildings and establish a Federal Energy Management Program, S. 1064, to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study on the national security